

## 'Society Reporter of Air' Brings Joy to Listeners, Lightens Tasks of Day

Mrs. Elias C. Atkins Employs Her Talent and Business Sagacity in Carving Out Interesting Career.

*This is the first of a series which tells the stories of Indianapolis women who have accomplished something in life, who have forced their way to prominence by their own initiative and ambition.*

BY BEATRICE BURGAN  
Times Woman's Page Editor

WHEN Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, as the First Lady of the Land, refused to lose her identity as a successful woman of affairs, she violated traditions of the White House. But she confirmed attitudes of thousands of American wives, who claim a right to "lives of their own," distinctly apart from the obligations entailed by their husbands' positions.

Mrs. Roosevelt is frank in admitting the contribution her work makes to her endeavor for a full and happy life. That is why she decided to continue editing the magazine with which she was associated before her husband became President of the United States, and why she is keeping in close touch with management of the school where she formerly taught.

Mrs. Roosevelt simply sums up the thought of women, universally shared—if not actively, at least secretly.

"Living is an art, if you like, but it also is a business," reasons Mrs. Roosevelt. "Whether you go out to work for the day, or whether you are a lady of leisure, the problem is much the same, for all human beings want some definite things from life—a sense of accomplishment in our work, and time in which to turn to other forms of expressions for our own pleasure."

Here in Indianapolis are women, who, by promptings of keen intellects or creative talents, have shared their obligations as wives with their interests as women of individual ambitions.

Mrs. Elias C. Atkins definitely is one of these women who have chosen careers to augment their positions as wives of prominent husbands. With Mr. Atkins, vice-president and superintendent of E. C. Atkins & Co., world famous sawmakers, Mrs. Atkins might have decided one business leader sufficient for the family.

But Mrs. Atkins is a woman of versatility and talent. She's modern, with no Victorian ideas about a "wife's place in the home." She possesses a business sagacity which, combined with her penchant for system, offers an ideal temperament for leadership.

When opportunity presented itself, she was ambitious enough not to deny the world her talent.

### Society Reporter of Air

Mrs. Atkins shares her role of wife and mother with her career as the "Society Reporter of the Air" for radio station WFBM. A simple task, you would say, for one born to society, for one who had studied at a fashionable school, traveled abroad in diplomatic ranks and bowed at English court.

### Perceptions Are Sharper

"I've sharpened my perception since I've been gathering news for my broadcast," explains Mrs. Atkins. "I never realized how unobtrusive I had been. Life takes on a new flavor. Things you never noticed before have their appeal. You understand what Kipling meant by his 'variety of things.'

### VER-A INQUISITIVE

Friends of Mrs. Atkins wonder how she manages her work, the presidency of Junior League, and affiliations with the Woman's Organization for National Prohibition Reform and the Orchard school.

### Day Is Systematized

They ask me, "When do you see your children? How can you do everything and not neglect your home?"

### MISS MARY LUTZ IS

"Because I have no delusions about the length of the day and the limit of my strength," she answers. "Life is a selective process. You must be strong-minded enough to sit down and choose what you want to do. It's no use to tangle up your life with so many things that can be completed successfully."

### Audience Grows Rapidly

She didn't moralize, but she did lift hearts a little with her cheerful interpretation of their happiness over such a simple thing. Housewives relieved the monotony of a morning's routine with a restful quarter hour of "listening in." They sent junior off to school, relaxed, and turned on the radio at 12:45.

When Mrs. Atkins started in December, 1931, she simply chatted about who was where, what so-and-so wore, and where she was going.

She soon realized more significant possibilities. Her inherently inquiring mind told her that other women would like to know more about more consequential things. Her chats became enlightening resumes of Town Hall lectures, League of Women Voters' study programs, book reviews, and other cultural and educational happenings in the city.

### Business Sense Keen

Her audience has grown with the widening of the program's scope. Women who haven't managed their lives to include time for outside interests welcome her observations. Her apt expression is not the least among the attractions of the broadcast.

Her interpretations of the things she reads and hears, her discriminating sifting of information, and her brightness of outlook are inviting an increasing number of followers.

The discussions of the hour are interspersed with bits of advertising, which first were obtained by the advertising company. Now Mrs. Atkins has assumed the responsibility of selling the advertising herself. Despite the fact she had no professional experience, she undertook this new obligation with hopeful anticipation.

### MISS MARY LUTZ IS

She had learned something in the way of management as the first chairman of the Junior League shop. She knew something about approach and methods from assisting her mother, Mrs. Philemon Watson, at intervals, in her Brown Barn shop.

It is not surprising that Mrs. Atkins possesses such a keen business sense with a mother who chose to convert her mother-in-law's carriage house into a successful shop for women.

During the season of her broadcast, each day finds Mrs. Atkins hastening from one lecture to another, to concerts and art exhibits, to libraries and business men, who have to be convinced of their need to be advertised.

The days never lose their flavor.

### Card Parties

St. Philip Neri Altar Society will entertain with a card party at 2:30 Wednesday afternoon at the school auditorium. Mrs. George Dippel is chairman.

### MISS MARY LUTZ IS

Gifts of linen were presented to Miss Mary Catherine Lutz, bride-elect, at a party given Monday night by Mrs. Thomas Bernhardt. Miss Lutz's marriage to Maurice Hegarty will take place Saturday at St. Peter and Paul cathedral.

### Plain souffle with creamed cauliflower, cress and apple salad, rye bread, peach tapioca pudding, milk, tea.

### Dinner

Veal loaf, tomatoes and mushrooms on toast, lima beans, molded spinach salad, fresh plum pie, milk, coffee.

### Thesi Club to Meet

Miss Mary Lou Colvin will be hostess tonight for a meeting of the Thesi Club at a meeting of 355 W. Washington avenue.

## Carves Out Own Career



—Photo by Ashby.

Mrs. Elias C. Atkins

## Manners and Morals

BY JANE JORDAN

*Don't be too lazy to write a letter. Differences of opinion always stimulate a discussion. It may be an interesting column to join in every discussion that features for her broadcast on the radio.*

**Perceptions Are Sharper**

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**VER-A INQUISITIVE**

Answer—I have been to the world's fair, but did not go in "The Streets of Paris," because I wasn't interested. I have seen plenty of nude dancers. It doesn't seem important to me whether they wear clothes or not. If they're beautiful, I like them. If they are ugly, I don't.

**Had the nude dancer in "The Streets of Paris" been sufficiently decorative and graceful, I probably should have enjoyed seeing her dance. I saw Tintoretto's famous painting of a nude woman in the exhibit at the art institute and was interested. No sooty thoughts arose to spoil my enjoyment of the picture, since there is nothing shocking to me about the unadorned human figure.**

I think what offends you is not so much the nudity of the dancer as the reaction of the people who see her. I feel the same repulsion when I hear about stag parties where nude dancers have been employed to appeal to the repressed passions of men. Husbands seem to feel that they are putting something smooth over on their wives. They exchange sly winks and naughty nudges and twit each other with the question, "What would your wife do if she could see you now?"

To me it is very sad that marriage should be regarded as a sort of penal institution, incapable of the "sweet, disreputable bliss" which makes sneaking-second-hand sensations unnecessary. After all, I wonder if such spectacles aren't more pathetic than disgusting.

Now that I've had my say, I'll be intensely interested in the viewpoint of other readers. Let every person with any thoughts on the subject be generous enough to make a contribution to the column.

**MISS MARY LUTZ IS**

Dear Jane Jordan—I am a boy nearly 20, going with a girl three years older than myself. I want to marry her, but her parents object because my father has served several terms in state prison. I do not live with my parents, but with an aunt and uncle. I never have been in any trouble of any kind.

Why should her parents hold my father's conduct against me? They say it is wrong to go with a girl older than myself. I want to marry her, but her parents object because my father has served several terms in state prison. I am just stumbling in the dark. Sometimes I feel like kissing the world good-bye. Am I worthy of their daughter in marriage?

Miss Elizabeth Bear of Evanston is visiting Miss Frances Kearby, 3920 Washington boulevard.

Mrs. Harriet Keefauer, 1234 Broadway, has returned from a visit at Greenville, O.

Miss Wilma Aulenbacher is spending the week at the exposition in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred H. Guyot, 5744 North Delaware street, have returned from a visit at Lake Winona.

Miss Marjorie Spencer is on a Great Lakes cruise.

John Collett has joined Mrs. Collett at the cottage of Dr. and Mrs. Frank A. Hamilton in Burt Lake, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Pier are visiting at the Lee V. Smith cottage at Empire, Mich.

Miss Lydia Jane Smith of the Glenn Martin home has gone to New York for a ten days' visit.

Miss Juanita Booth of Maury City, Tenn., is visiting her sister, Mrs. Ernests Baltzell, and Mr. Baltzell of the Marott.

Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Golden have returned from a week's visit in Chicago.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Kifhoff, 5400 East Raymond street, returned Monday from a Century of Progress exposition in Chicago. They were accompanied by Miss Helen Keller Mohr and Carson Mohr of Shelbyville.

Guests included Misses Hegarty, Helen Perry, Ann McCollum, Mildred Pearce, Sally O'Brien, Dorothy Woods, Evelyn Nohrholz and Victoria Poggiani and Mesdames Ralph C. Davis and Everett Schmitz.

The hostess was assisted by her mother Mrs. Josephine Davis.

The real objection to your marriage with the girl apparently has not occurred to them, and that is your youth. Three years' difference in ages does not amount to much. But a boy of 20 should be willing to wait until he is better prepared to shoulder the responsibilities of matrimony. In a few more years this girl may not appeal to you at all.

I most certainly do not believe that the sins of the fathers should be visited upon the children. The

**MISS MARY LUTZ IS**

Gamma chapter, Rho Delta sorority, will meet Wednesday night at the home of Miss Dorcas Morris, 1208 Lexington avenue.

Miss Cecilia Mulvihill, 1345 Blaine avenue, will be hostess at 8:15 Wednesday night for a meeting of Phi Kappa Sigma sorority.

**Sororities**

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Pedlar are at home at 1522 Canton street, after their marriage Saturday. Mrs. Pedlar was Miss Doris Esther Smith, daughter of Elkhart, formerly of Indiana.

**Newlyweds at Home**

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